

## REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed **07 December 2004**, the Examiner imposed a two way restriction requirement between **Group I** consisting of **Claims 1 - 12** drawn to a method and **Group II** consisting of **Claims 13 - 18** drawn to an apparatus.

**Claims 1** through **12** of **Group I** are herein elected without traverse and are pending in the above-identified patent application. **Claims 13 - 18** of **Group II** are withdrawn from consideration without prejudice or disclaimer.

## CONCLUSION

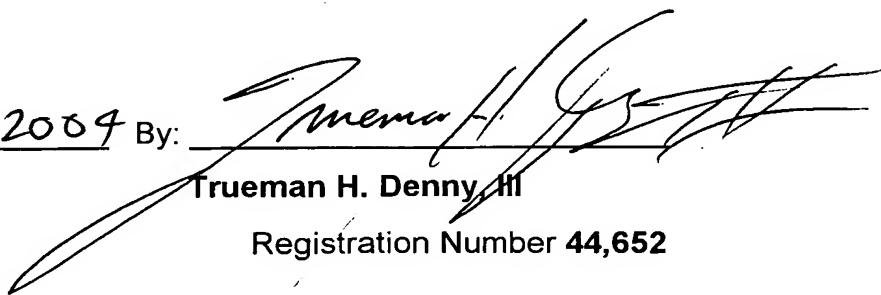
The Applicants have elected the claims of **Group I** consisting of **Claims 1 - 12** without traverse for examination on the merits in response to a Restriction Requirement imposed in the Office Action mailed **07 December 2004**. The status of the application is as follows: **Claims 1** through **12** are pending in the above-identified patent application and **Claims 13 - 18** are withdrawn from consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

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